

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A side gas bag for a vehicle occupant restraint system, said side gas bag having an inflatable volume which is delimited by an exterior gas bag covering (16), ~~characterized in that there is~~ said side gas bag being provided with an inflatable pouch (18) in an inflation region of said gas bag (14) inside said gas bag covering (16), said pouch (18) having an elongated, tubular shape with opposite first and second end faces (20, 22), said first end face (20) being constructed as an inflation opening, said second end face (22) being constructed as an outflow opening and being provided with a tear seam (24) which tears open at a predetermined internal pressure of said pouch (18) and thereby opens said outflow opening.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled)

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The side gas bag according to claim 1, wherein said tear seam (24) closes said outflow opening ~~claim 3 characterized in that said tear seam (24) has at least one exhaust opening.~~

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A side gas bag module for a vehicle occupant restraint system, ~~characterized in that said~~

module (10) ~~has~~ comprising at least one side gas bag (14) including an inflatable volume which is delimited by an exterior gas bag covering (16), said side gas bag being provided with and including an inflatable pouch (18) in an inflation region of said gas bag (14) inside said gas bag covering (16), said pouch (18) having an elongated, tubular shape with opposite first and second end faces (20, 22), said first end face (20) being constructed as an inflation opening, said second end face (22) being constructed as an outflow opening and being provided with a tear seam (24) which tears open at a predetermined internal pressure of said pouch (18) and thereby opens said outflow opening.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The side gas bag module according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said pouch (18) of said side gas bag (14) is directly connected with an inflation connection (12) of said module (10).

Claim 7 (New): The side gas bag according to claim 1, wherein no gas flows out of said pouch during the inflation of said pouch (18) and before the outflow opening is open.

Claim 8 (New) The side gas bag module according to claim 5 comprising another side gas bag symmetrical with said first mentioned side gas bag (14), said another side gas bag (14) including an inflatable volume which is delimited by an exterior gas bag covering (16), said another side gas bag being provided with an inflatable pouch (18) in an inflation

region of said gas bag (14) inside said gas bag covering (16), said pouch (18) of said another side gas bag (14) having an elongated, tubular shape with opposite first and second end faces (20, 22), said first end face (20) of said pouch (18) of said another side gas bag (14) being constructed as an inflation opening, said second end face (22) of said pouch (18) of said another side gas bag (14) being constructed as an outflow opening and being provided with a tear seam (24) which tears open at a predetermined internal pressure of said pouch (18) of said another side gas bag (14) and thereby opens said outflow opening.

Claim 9 (New): The side gas bag module according to claim 5, wherein no gas flows out of said pouch (18) during the inflation of said pouch (18) and before the outflow opening is open.

Claim 10 (New): The side gas bag according to claim 1, wherein the gas of said pouch only flows out of the outflow opening.

Claim 11 (New) A side gas bag for a vehicle occupant restraint system, said side gas bag having an inflatable volume which is delimited by an exterior gas bag covering, said side gas bag being provided with an inflatable pouch in an inflation region of said gas bag inside said gas bag covering, said pouch having an elongated, tubular shape, said pouch including an inflation opening and an outflow opening, said outflow opening being provided with a tear seam which tears open at a

predetermined internal pressure of said pouch and thereby opens said outflow opening, wherein no gas flows out of said pouch during the inflation of said pouch and before the outflow opening is open.